

Application No.: 09/646,811
Atty. Docket: BATG-5

mechanism of claim 10, comprising:

2
C

a housing having a roller positioned therein, said roller having a plurality of plucking pins mounted on an outer circumference;

an upper portion of said housing defining a funnel above said roller;

a preloaded compressive pusher slidably mounted in said housing;

said preloaded compressive pusher and housing forming a tobacco chamber beneath said roller; and,

a cam operatively engaging said preloaded compressive pusher between a first position and a second position.

REMARKS

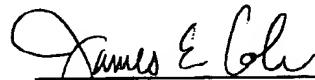
Applicant's attorney hereby elects to prosecute the invention cited as Group I, including claims 10-15 and 26-46. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant's attorney has amended independent claims 47 and 52 so that the amended claims now depend from independent claim 10. Claims 48-51 also depend from claim 47 and, therefore, claim 10. Applicant's attorney believes this resolves the issue of restriction. However, if the Examiner believes there are unresolved issues in this case, Applicant's attorney would appreciate a call at (502) 584-1135 to discuss such remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Application No.: 09/646,811
Atty. Docket: BATG-5

Dated: 1/15/03



James E. Cole, Reg. No. 50,530
MIDDLETON REUTLINGER
2500 Brown & Williamson Tower
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
(502) 584-1135 phone, (502) 561-0442 fax
email:jcole@middreut.com